

NOTICE ASSIGNMENT CONTROL SHEET

LOG CONTROL NUMBER: 140

**ANALYST
ASSIGNED: HYLER**

ACTION: AN

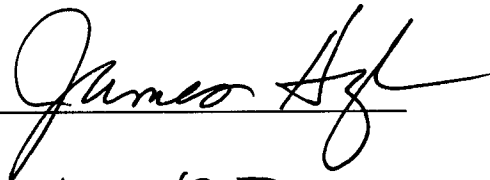
**TITLE: OSEP – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND
DISSEMINATION TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND RESULTS
FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES – BUILDING STATE
CAPACITY TO IMPROVE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES UNDER THE NO CHILD
LEFT BEHIND ACT AND THE INDIVIDUALS WITH
DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT**

RECEIVED: 5/23/07

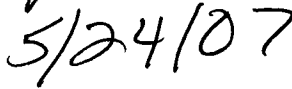
DATE ASSIGNED: 5/23/07

DATE DUE: 5/30/07

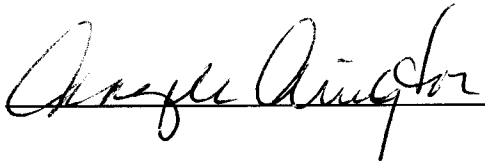
ANALYST SIGNATURE:



COMPLETION DATE:

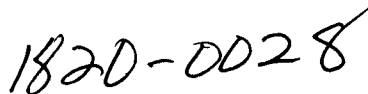


FINAL APPROVAL:



DATE: 5-24-07

OMB NO:



REG PART:



Rudolph, Kim

From: Hyler, James
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2007 10:40 AM
To: Johnson, Janet
Cc: Sturdivant, Debra; Arrington, Angela; Rudolph, Kim
Subject: RE: Request for Clearance for OSERS/OSEP--TA-Improve Achievement under NCLB & IDEA (CFDA No. 84.326K) Notice Inviting Applications

Janet: OMB approves this Notice as OSEP has OMB approval under 1820-0028. James

-----Original Message-----

From: Johnson, Janet
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2007 1:02 PM
To: Winters, Deborah; Faulkner, Janice; Sinclair, Francine; Hill, Paula; Wade, Maria; Cubarrubia, Archie; Henderson, Carrie; McFadden, Elizabeth; Higgins, Shannan; Rosen, Jeff; Sheridan, Suzanne; McGrath, Jack; Cogdill, David; Rudolph, Kim; Holloway, Michael; Rodriguez, Blanca; Howard, Khrriss
Cc: Tada, Wendy; Frane, Gregory; Arrington, Angela; Hyler, James; Mullan, Kate; Harding, Natasha; Griffin, Charlesetta; Price-Ellingstad, Debra; Sturdivant, Debra; Winston, Melanie
Subject: Request for Clearance for OSERS/OSEP--TA-Improve Achievement under NCLB & IDEA (CFDA No. 84.326K) Notice Inviting Applications

Please review the attached draft Notice Inviting Applications for OSERS/OSEP--Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Building State Capacity to Improve the Achievement of Students With Disabilities under the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (CFDA No. 84.326K). Please send me your comments and/or concurrence by Wednesday, May 30. Thank you.

Note: This application notice includes the following priorities from the Secretary's Policy Priorities for Discretionary Grant Programs for FY 2007 and FY 2008, as published in the Federal Register on October 11, 2006.

☒ Priority 6 -- School Districts w/Schools in Need of Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring
☒ Priority 7 -- Student Achievement Data
☒ Priority 8 -- State Data Systems

<< File: 326K TA-Improve Achievement under NCLB & IDEA-Draft1.doc >> << File: 326K--Clearance Sheet.doc >>

Janet Johnson
U.S. Department of Education
Regulatory Services Division/OGC
(202)401-8300 -- (202)260-5093-Fax

REGULATIONS CLEARANCE SHEET
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
DIVISION OF REGULATORY SERVICES (DRS)

DRAFT NO.: 1

DATE: May 23, 2007

Please review the attached document, check the appropriate box below, sign, and return with your comments, if any, or e-mail your response and any comments to Janet Johnson (Rm. 6C124). Your response is due by Wednesday, May 30.

Office of the Secretary*

[X] Deborah Winters, Ex. Sec., 7C100
[X] Janice Faulkner, 7W223
(Holly Kuzmich)

Office of the Deputy Secretary*

[X] Francine Sinclair, 7W228
cc: Wendy Tada

Office of Planning, Evaluation & Policy Development*

[X] Paula Hill, 5E321
[X] Budget Service, Maria Wade, 5W311
cc: Greg Frane

Office of the Under Secretary*

[X] Archie Cubarrubia, 7E319
[X] Carrie Henderson, 7E313

**Office of the General Counsel
Deputy General Counsel**

[] Jeff Taylor, 6E339

Assistant General Counsel/DRS

[X] E. McFadden, 6E217*

Deputy Assistant General Counsel/DRS

[X] Shannan Higgins, 6C135

Program Attorney/DEER

[X] Jeff Rosen, 6E202
[X] Suzanne Sheridan, 6E229

Faith-based and Community Initiative

[] Shayam Menon, 410M CP
[] Richard Boucher, 410D CP

Legislation & Congressional Affairs*

[X] Jack McGrath, 6W332

Office of Management

[X] David Cogdill, 2W225
[X] Kim Rudolph, 9152 PCP
cc: Angela Arrington
cc: James Hyler
cc: Kate Mullan
[] Dianne Novick, RIMS {Send only SORs}

**Chief Financial Officer & Chief
Information Officer**

[X] Michael Holloway, 4E231
[X] Blanca Rodriguez, Charlesetta Griffin
cc: Natasha Harding, GPOS, 3652 ROB-3*
[X] Khriiss Howard, 4E320

**Special Education &
Rehabilitative Services**

cc: Debra Price-Ellingstad, 4097 PCP

Program Contact: Debra Sturdivant

Scheduler: Melanie J. Winston

CHECK ONE

- | |
|---|
| <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved subject to minor changes
<input type="checkbox"/> Not approved-see comments</p> |
|---|

TYPE AND TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Notice Inviting Applications for OSERS/OSEP--
Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for
Children with Disabilities--Building State Capacity to Improve the Achievement of
Students With Disabilities under the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals
with Disabilities Education Act (CFDA No. 84.326K).

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: 5/24/07

COMMENTS: 1820-0028

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Overview Information

Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services

and Results for Children with Disabilities--Building State

Capacity to Improve the Achievement of Students With

Disabilities under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and

the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year

(FY) 2007.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

84.326K

Dates:

Applications Available: (INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
FEDERAL REGISTER).

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: (INSERT DATE 30
DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: (INSERT DATE 90
DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: This program promotes academic achievement and improves results for children with disabilities by supporting technical assistance, model demonstration projects, dissemination of useful information, and implementation activities that are supported by scientifically based research.

Priority: In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(v), this priority is from allowable activities specified in the statute (see sections 663 and 681(d) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.).

Absolute Priority: For FY 2007 this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

This priority is:

Building State Capacity to Improve the Achievement of Students With Disabilities under NCLB and IDEA

Background:

Both the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) promote the implementation of effective methods of instruction and instructional strategies based on research.

NCLB further mandates that all students, including students with disabilities, reach proficiency standards by 2014.

Compelling data from the National Assessment of Educational Progress demonstrate that IDEA and NCLB are working together to improve the achievement of students with disabilities. For example, between 2000 and 2005, in 4th grade reading the scores of students with disabilities increased by over 20 points and the achievement gap between students with and without disabilities decreased from 50 points to 32 points. While significant progress has been made, to meet NCLB proficiency standards for students with disabilities by 2014 many districts and schools will need significant levels of support. To assist districts and schools, State educational agencies (SEAs) will need to develop extensive and sustained statewide systems of support. Technical assistance provided through these systems should, in part, support the implementation of evidence-based instructional strategies.

Although both NCLB and IDEA promote the use of evidence-based instructional practices, few examples exist of support systems that SEAs have established to assist districts and schools to implement those practices successfully, especially for students with disabilities.

Review of statewide systems of support by the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) indicates that SEAs are generally providing support and technical assistance aimed at improving outcomes for students with and without disabilities. More often than not, however, this support and technical assistance is piecemeal and not coordinated across regular and special education. In addition, although a variety of methods and evidence-based instructional strategies are promoted by SEA technical assistance efforts, few SEAs have demonstrated that they have the capacity to assist local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools to select, implement, and evaluate these strategies based on their unique needs and contexts, and even fewer have demonstrated that they are able to assist in implementing these strategies on a large scale. With the recent appropriation of School Improvement funds under Title I, which target assistance to schools that fail to meet NCLB requirements, State capacity for supporting LEAs becomes an even more urgent need.

There are emerging areas in education for which there are evidence-based strategies that naturally call for collaboration across general and special education. Two of these areas are dropout prevention and response to

intervention (RTI). Although evidence-based practices have been developed and studied in a variety of contexts, in many cases research and development is not leading to successful implementation or positive outcomes over time.

The States that have built the capacity and infrastructure needed for statewide implementation of a specific initiative have applied many of the components of systemic change and scaling up that were identified by Dean Fixsen, as described in a synthesis of the literature on implementation research (2005). These States have an implementation leader who has knowledge about how to serve various populations of students and who has dedicated time to oversee implementation of evidence-based practices statewide. They have used data to make decisions about training and other programming and have provided ongoing professional development designed to gradually teach and build on the skills of all personnel. Successful States have used coaching and consulting to ensure that school personnel sustain their effective use of the new practices. They have also shared data with policymakers and other key stakeholders to demonstrate needs and outcomes. These States have built successful interagency collaborations and have ensured that critical players are included in

regularly held meetings, in addition to encouraging peer communication and collaboration.

Many SEAs do not have the ability to support LEAs that need assistance to successfully implement evidence-based practices. Building the capacity of SEAs to provide LEAs the level of assistance they need will lead to a transformation of education systems that will facilitate and sustain the use of effective programs and practices statewide. It is for these reasons that the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) is proposing to fund a technical assistance center that will help build SEA capacity to support districts and schools by developing, in each of six States, a support and technical assistance infrastructure that coordinates responses across both special education and regular education to improve the performance of students with disabilities. Many of the responses of this infrastructure may be equally beneficial for the performance of students without disabilities. The Center will be funded for five years. The Center will work with three (3) pilot SEAs beginning in year one of the project. An additional three (3) SEAs will be added in the third year of the project.

The Center will provide technical assistance to the six SEAs to help them provide systematic support across both special education and regular education to LEAs implementing evidence-based practices. Because effective technical assistance infrastructures that are coordinated across regular and special education can not be developed absent of content, SEAs must choose a substantive area, based on their current priorities, in which evidence-based practices that assist students with disabilities will be implemented. The SEAs may receive help from the Center in choosing the substantive area of implementation. Once a systemic, coordinated TA infrastructure is in place around the substantive area chosen by the State, the Center will assist the SEAs to generalize what has been learned to all areas of TA provided by the SEA. This will result in the creation of a state-level TA infrastructure that supports the large-scale implementation of evidence-based practices across both special education and regular education. The Center and its SEA partners must work with existing OSEP/OESE-funded technical assistance centers that specialize in the substantive areas chosen by the SEAs. The technical assistance centers that specialize in the substantive areas will provide the research findings on

evidence-based practices, training, and materials the SEAs need to deliver high quality interventions to schools and districts.

Priority:

This priority will support a National Center to Support Building State Capacity to Provide Technical Assistance. The Center's technical assistance will be targeted to SEAs.

To be considered for an award under this priority, applicants must -

(a) Provide, in the narrative section of the application under "Quality of Project Services,"

(1) A detailed rationale for selecting six States to work with the Center to improve their capacity to support districts and schools. Capacity will be built by developing a support and technical assistance infrastructure that coordinates responses across both special education and regular education to improve the performance of students with disabilities. (Final selection of participant States will be made with input from OSEP during the development of the Cooperative Agreement for this priority. Factors for consideration in making these decisions could include the demographic and geographic

characteristics of each State; each recommended SEA's priorities for substantive areas of implementation that will assist students with disabilities; the current SEA's capacity for providing technical assistance, specifically their technical assistance infrastructure, expertise, and resources; and the commitment of each State's regular and special education leadership to coordinate their technical assistance to improve performance of students with disabilities.)

(2) A dissemination plan that includes examples of potential products and tools for use by States that are innovative, accessible, and designed for maximum impact. This plan must describe the audiences that are most likely to benefit from these products and tools and the methods the Center will use to reach them.

The Center must ---

(a) Assist partner SEAs in building coordinated technical assistance infrastructures that can be used for implementing evidence-based instructional strategies in the substantive areas chosen to support school improvement across both special education and regular education.

(b) Collaborate, as appropriate, with corresponding OESE-funded comprehensive centers and OSEP-funded regional

resource centers, and the OSEP-funded State Personnel Development Grant (if the state has one), as well as the OSEP-funded technical assistance center that specializes in the substantive areas chosen.

(c) Establish and provide ongoing support to a community of practice (CoP) that crosses regular and special education. The purpose of this CoP is to ensure that knowledge of how to develop and sustain a State technical assistance infrastructure that focuses on systemic change across special education and regular education generated from the work of the Center and its SEA partners is shared across the partner SEAs and with others interested in developing similar comprehensive State technical assistance infrastructures. The membership of this community of practice must be determined with input from OSEP and OESE, and must include: representatives from the SEA partners; experts in systems change and scaling up implementation of evidence based practices; technical assistance providers with expertise in State specified content; regional comprehensive centers and regional resource centers; regional educational laboratories; parents; State and local policy makers; and distinguished teachers and principals. The Center must support the

ongoing communication of the community of practice through email, teleconference, web-based discussions, and face-to-face meetings. The Center must select an advisory group from the CoP. This advisory group must meet with the Center staff on a regular basis.

(d) Develop two dissemination activities per year (decided upon with the assistance of OSEP) that describe lessons-learned and provide guidance to others interested in developing comprehensive technical assistance infrastructures that address problems across both special education and regular education, such as SEAs and technical assistance providers.

(e) Develop and disseminate, as a final product, a protocol for creating a State-level integrated technical assistance infrastructure to support the large-scale implementation of evidence-based practices.

(f) If the Center maintains a Web site, include relevant information and documents in a form that meets a government or industry-recognized standard for accessibility.

The Center also must--

(a) Budget for a three-day Project Directors' meeting in Washington, DC during each year of the project,

plus one additional two-day trip annually to Washington, DC to attend additional national meetings and to meet and collaborate with the OSEP Project Officer and other funded projects for purposes of cross-project collaboration and information exchange; and

(b) Budget five percent of the grant amount annually to support emerging needs as identified jointly through consultation with the OSEP project officer.

Fourth and Fifth Years of the Project:

In deciding whether to continue funding the Center for the fourth and fifth years, the Secretary will consider the requirements of 34 CFR 75.253(a), and in addition--

(a) The recommendation of a review team consisting of experts selected by the Secretary, which review will be conducted during the last half of the project's second year in Washington, DC. Projects must budget for travel expenses associated with this one-day intensive review;

(b) The timeliness and effectiveness with which all requirements of the negotiated cooperative agreement have been or are being met by the Center; and

(c) The degree to which the project promotes best practices in educational services to young children with disabilities.

Waiver of Proposed Rulemaking: Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on a proposed priority. However, section 681(d) of IDEA makes the public comment requirements under the APA inapplicable to the priority in this notice.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1463 and 1481(d).

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 79 apply to all applicants except federally recognized Indian tribes.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to IHEs only.

Type of Award: Cooperative agreement.

Estimated Available Funds: \$1,000,000.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding \$1,000,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Number of Awards: 1.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs); local educational agencies (LEAs); public charter schools that are LEAs under State law; institutions of higher education (IHEs); other public agencies, such as lead agencies, public early intervention service programs and public early intervention service providers under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA); private nonprofit organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching: This competition does not require cost sharing or matching.

3. Other: General Requirements -- (a) The project funded under this competition must make positive efforts to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities (see section 606 of IDEA).

(b) Applicants and the award recipient funded under this competition must involve individuals with disabilities or parents of individuals with disabilities ages birth

through 26 in planning, implementing, and evaluating the project (see section 682(a)(1)(A) of IDEA).

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call, (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You can contact ED Pubs at its Web site, also: www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html or at its e-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA Number 84.326K.

Individuals with disabilities can obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the person or team listed under Alternate Format in section VIII of this notice.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission:
Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the package for this competition.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the

application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than 70 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the coversheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, references, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

We will reject your application if--

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit;
- or

- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. Submission Dates and Times:

Applications Available: [INSERT DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

Applications for the award under this competition may be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site (Grants.gov), or in paper format by mail or hand delivery. For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically, or in paper format by mail or hand delivery, please refer to section IV. 6.

Other Submission Requirements in this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII in this notice. If the Department provides an accommodation or auxiliary aid to an individual with a disability in connection with the application process, the individual's application remains

subject to all other requirements and limitations in this notice.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: [INSERT DATE 90 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

4. Intergovernmental Review: This competition is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. Information about Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs under Executive Order 12372 is in the application package for this competition.

5. Funding Restrictions: We reference regulations outlining funding restrictions in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

6. Other Submission Requirements: Applications for grants under this competition may be submitted electronically or in paper format by mail or hand delivery.

a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

We have been accepting applications electronically through the Department's e-Application system since FY 2000. In order to expand on those efforts and comply with the President's Management Agenda, we are continuing to participate as a partner in the new government wide Grants.gov Apply site in FY 2007. The Building State Capacity to Improve the Achievement of Students With

Disabilities under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), CFDA Number 84.326K, is one of the programs included in this project. We request your participation in Grants.gov.

If you choose to submit your application electronically, you must use the Grants.gov Apply site at <http://www.grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Building State Capacity to Improve the Achievement of Students With Disabilities under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) at <http://www.Grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this competition by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search (e.g., search for 84.326, not 84.326K).

Please note the following:

- Your participation in Grants.gov is voluntary.

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by Grants.gov are date and time stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are rejecting your application because it was date and time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors, including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this competition to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete the steps in the Grants.gov registration process (http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp). These steps include (1) registering your organization, a multi-part process that includes registration with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR); (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBrochure.pdf>). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all

registration steps to allow you to successfully submit an application via Grants.gov. In addition you will need to update your CCR registration on an annual basis. This may take three or more business days to complete.

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit your application in paper format.

- If you submit your application electronically, you must submit all documents electronically, including all information you typically provide on the following forms: Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424, Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications. Please note that two of these forms--the SF 424 and the Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF 424--have replaced the ED 424 (Application for Federal Education Assistance).

- If you submit your application electronically, you must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type

other than the three file types specified in this paragraph or submit a password-protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number.

(This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only, not receipt by the Department.) The Department then will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send a second notification to you by e-mail. This second notification indicates that the Department has received your application and has assigned your application a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of System

Technical Issues with the Grant.Gov System: If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions described elsewhere in this notice.

If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date, please contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in Section VII in this notice and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: The extensions to which we refer in this section apply only to the unavailability of, or technical problems

with, the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.

If you submit your application in paper format by mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier), you must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

By mail through the U.S. Postal Service:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.326K)
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20202-4260

or

By mail through a commercial carrier:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center, Stop 4260
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.326K)
7100 Old Landover Road
Landover, MD 20785-1506

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.

(2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.

(3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.

(4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

(1) A private metered postmark.

(2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

Note: The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

c. Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.

If you submit your application in paper format by hand delivery, you (or a courier service) must deliver the original and two copies of your application by hand, on or

before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: (CFDA Number 84.326K)
550 12th Street, SW.
Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza
Washington, DC 20202-4260

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications: If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department--

(1) You must indicate on the envelope and -- if not provided by the Department -- in Item 11 of the SF 424 the CFDA number, including suffix letter, if any, of the competition under which you are submitting your application; and

(2) The Application Control Center will mail to you a notification of receipt of your grant application. If you do not receive this notification within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

V. Application Review Information

Selection Criteria: The selection criteria for this competition are from 34 CFR 75.210 and are listed in the application package.

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices: If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notice (GAN). We may notify you informally, also.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements: We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the award.

3. Reporting: At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to

<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html>

4. Performance Measures: Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the Department has developed measures that will yield information on various aspects of the Technical Assistance and Dissemination to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities program. These measures focus on: the extent to which projects provide high quality products and services, the relevance of project products and services to educational and early intervention policy and practice, and the use of products and services to improve educational and early intervention policy and practice.

The awardee will be required to provide information related to these measures.

The awardee also will be required to report information on the project's performance in annual reports to the Department (34 CFR 75.590).

VII. Agency Contact

For Further Information Contact: Debra Price-Ellingstad,
U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW.,
Room 4097, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2550.
Telephone: (202) 245-7481.

If you use a TDD, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS),
toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

VIII. Other Information

Alternative Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5075 PCP, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 245-7363. If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: www.ed.gov/news/fedregister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html

Dated:

John H. Hager,
Assistant Secretary for Special
Education and Rehabilitative
Services.